

THE FRONTIER

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Hardware, Grocery Swept by Costly Fires

Holt Woman May Have Polio Cure

Mrs. Bertha Urban Will Demonstrate Theory in New York City

DOCTORS BAFFLED

EWING—Mrs. Bertha Urban, of Ewing, baffled a group of Omaha medical people recently in a demonstration of what she thinks may lead to a cure for infantile paralysis. The credence the Omahans placed in Mrs. Urban's strange theory soon will send the Holt county woman to New York City to present a more thorough demonstration before a highly-specialized group of doctors in the famous Knickerbocker hospital, a research center for polio.

The Omaha demonstration was conducted at St. Joseph's hospital, one of Nebraska's polio centers. Reluctant to discuss her theory for a possible polio cure prior to the Omaha demonstration, Mrs. Urban has since reconstructed the story of the development of her plan.

Until recently, Mrs. Urban has operated a "lying-in hospital" at Ewing where she cared for numerous cases of a variety of types. She says that she frequently found it useful to trace and follow the patient's nerves with her fingers and in some instances find where nerves were infected or a seat of trouble. Also, after locating the vital spot, she frequently was able to relieve the patient's suffering.

As news of her work spread, interest was created and in December she accepted the invitation to demonstrate her nerve-tracing before the professional audience in Omaha. She spent three weeks in Omaha, during which time her work was also brought to the attention of Mayo clinic specialists, through whom the Knickerbocker arrangement was made.

A small girl who had been suffering with polio for sometime was used during the demonstration at Omaha. Mrs. Urban traced the nerves in a way that was unfamiliar to the doctors, and she succeeded in locating what she termed a "trouble spot." Some of the doctors, attempting to follow the "feeling," were unsuccessful.

Since the demonstration-treatment, the little girl victim is reported to have shown a marked improvement.

Mrs. Urban says that she has already received considerable criticism because of her "theory" and her belief in it, yet she is surprised and pleased that an audience has been arranged for her in New York City.

EWING YOUTH HURT IN EXPLOSION

EWING—Jack Sisson, 8, son of Mr. and Mrs. Robby Sisson, of Ewing, is in a Norfolk hospital with injuries received in a dynamite cap explosion.

A piece of glass, hurled by the explosion, penetrated his abdominal wall, damaging the intestine. He was operated upon Tuesday and attendants said his condition Wednesday was "fair."

The accident occurred on the Ewing schoolground just before afternoon classes convened. One report was that the cap exploded in a bonfire, another that some boys exploded the cap in a bottle.

Snow Flurries in Order Twice During Week

Snow flurries were in order early Monday and today (Thursday)—the only snowfall of the week.

The week's weather summary, based on readings at 8 a.m. daily, follows:

| Date | Hi | Lo | Moist |
|------------|----|----|-------|
| January 10 | 52 | 24 | |
| January 11 | 56 | 33 | |
| January 12 | 36 | 26 | |
| January 13 | 32 | 24 | .04 |
| January 14 | 39 | 15 | |
| January 15 | 38 | 5 | |
| January 16 | 15 | 5 | T |

O'NEILL HOSPITAL NOTES

Mrs. Helen Downs much improved. . . Mrs. Noble doing nicely. . . Baby Ruda, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Pete Ruda, of Brantford, improving. . . Mrs. James Beck, of Stuart, is much improved. . . Felix Sullivan is improving.

MARRIAGE LICENSES

Dale R. Mitchell, 26, and Loreta S. Taylor, 21, both of Amelia, January 4.
Lyle W. Luber, 22 and Verna June Chase, 26, both of Dorsey, January 16.

JOSEPH M'NICHOLS BURIED TUESDAY

Well-Known Farmer Spent Most of Life in Holt County

Joseph McNichols, 63, who spent virtually his entire life in the O'Neill community, died at 4:40 p.m. Sunday at his home two and one-half miles northwest of the city.

He had been ill for about two months, and had been in retirement for about the same length of time, having recently sold his farm livestock and machinery at a public auction.

Rt. Rev. J. G. McNamara officiated in the last rites held at St. Patrick's Catholic church here Tuesday morning. Interment was in Calvary cemetery under the direction of Biglin Brothers.

A large throng of relatives and friends attended the last rites.

Mr. McNichols was born at Ames, Ia., on January 18, 1883, a son of Mr. and Mrs. Patrick McNichols. The family moved to Holt county when the late Joseph McNichols was only one-year-old.

On October 15, 1913, he married Miss Rose McDermott. They became the parents of four daughters, all of whom survive their parents. Mrs. McNichols died on January 2, 1944.

Mr. McNichols' father died in September, 1905, and his mother died in March, 1938.

Survivors include: Four daughters—Mrs. Wallace O'Connell, of Atkinson; Mrs. Leonard Shoemaker, of O'Neill; Mrs. Gerald Kleinschmidt, of Los Angeles, Calif.; and Miss Helen McNichols, of O'Neill; two brothers—John and Walter, two sisters—Mrs. John Donohoe and Mrs. Patrick Hickey, all of O'Neill; and four grandchildren.

EX-NAVAL OFFICER GETS AIR MEDAL

Lt. (jg) Freeman Lee Knight, USNR, of O'Neill, has received a permanent citation for the Air Medal from Secretary of the Navy James Forrestal. Lt. Knight, who is on inactive duty, earned the award while attached to the U. S. S. Wasp as a fighter pilot in Bombing Fighting Squadron 86.

During the war, citations were temporary, or incomplete, for security reasons, the Navy said.

The text of the citation is as follows: "For meritorious achievement in aerial flight as pilot of a fighter plane in Bombing Fighting Squadron 86, attached to the U. S. S. Wasp, during operations against enemy Japanese forces in the Pacific War Area, on March 18 and 19, and from July 30 to August 15, 1945. Participating in numerous missions over Wake Island and Honshu and Kyushu, Japan. Lt. (jg) Knight pressed home attacks in the face of enemy anti-aircraft fire to inflict severe damage on hostile planes, airfields and installations. His devotion to duty was in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Naval Service."

Both Mr. and Mrs. Griswold are prepared to stay in Europe for sometime. As a civil service employee of the War department, he will accumulate 26 days of leave a year.

Mrs. Griswold said she had been assured "a very lovely home."

Mr. Walsh and Mrs. Pat Harty entertained L. B. Walsh of Des Moines, Ia., over the weekend.

Female Dog Adopts, Nurses Orphaned Pigs

CLEARWATER—An almost incredible story of how a small, screw-tailed female bulldog named Butch adopted four motherless pigs, nursed them on their way to maturity, and now—two months after the adoption—continues with her motherly devotion was told this week by the J. E. Medcalf family near Clearwater.

The beginning of the story dates back to mid-November when the Medcalfs were given four little white orphan pigs.

That night, Mrs. Medcalf made a bed for the helpless newcomers in a tub near the kitchen range.

Four-year-old Butch, who had reared a family of pups two years ago and was later spayed, eyed the little pigs carefully for awhile and finally decided they needed a mother's care.

She crawled into the tub and they immediately nestled up to their newfound "mother."

Two of the baby pigs had been stepped on by their own mother and had gashes cut in them. Butch, in the natural way, licked the wounds until they were healed.

Soon the four little orphans went after their "mother" in the natural way, because they were hungry, but the cupboard was bare. The Medcalfs came to the rescue with bottles of warm milk, but after being bottle-fed the orphans would turn to their "mother." In a week Butch was supplying all the milk for her adopted family.

The family was transplanted from the tub in the kitchen to a box in the basement. The little orphans didn't grow rapidly yet they progressed satisfactorily with their "mother" entertaining them by the hour.

Finally, Butch could no longer supply enough milk for her hungry, growing "babies" so the bottle was brought back into use.

Now two-months-old, the orphans are wintering in a comfortable corner in the barn where Butch visits regularly, just as attentive as ever.

How long this devotion will continue the Medcalfs are wondering.

Butch senses that her period of usefulness will soon be over, but she continues to look after their warmth and does the best she can in the food department.

After all, she cannot again become a mother herself.



KATHLEEN: 'HELLO-O-O WORLD!'

Little Kathleen Wanser, Holt county's first 1947 baby, says "Hello-o-o, world!"

She arrived in the O'Neill hospital at 4:20 a.m. on January 2—hours ahead of any other contender for the honor of the county's first-arrival in the new year. Her parents are Mr. and Mrs. Max Wanser, of Inman.

A group of O'Neill business firms, a self-appointed reception committee, arranged to shower the first babe with a variety of gifts in cooperation with The Frontier.

Kathleen has six brothers and one sister. According to her parents, she is completely oblivious to all the fuss being made.—O'Neill Photo Co.

GRISWOLD HERE ENROUTE TO POST

Ex-Governor and Wife Plan to Be in Europe 'For Sometime'

Ex-Gov. Dwight Griswold and Mrs. Griswold, enroute to a new post—in the American occupied zone of Germany—stopped off here at noon Tuesday and visited briefly with relatives.

Mr. Griswold relinquished the governor's chair to Val Peterson, of Elgin, last Thursday, and he and Mrs. Griswold spent the weekend with relatives at Gordon.

Sworn to New Job Nebraska's three-time governor was sworn in Tuesday night at Omaha as a civil service employee. He will serve with the military government in Germany in a position comparable to a Secretary of the Interior.

The ex-governor jokingly referred to his new job where, as a civil service employee, he is not supposed to work more than 40 hours per week.

"That will be a change," he chirped.

Although the ex-governor is looking forward to his new \$10,000 a year position, he said: "I don't think there is a more important job than governor of Nebraska."

'Lovely Home'

Both Mr. and Mrs. Griswold are prepared to stay in Europe for sometime. As a civil service employee of the War department, he will accumulate 26 days of leave a year.

Mrs. Griswold said she had been assured "a very lovely home."

HOSPITAL PUSH PASSES \$50,804

The drive for funds for O'Neill's new 200 thousand dollar community hospital this week passed the \$50,804 mark, it was announced by L. C. Walling, the solicitation chairman.

Mr. Walling reported that the fund was swelled \$3,500 by the solicitation outside O'Neill conducted the last week of 1946.

Clarence Ernest, O'Neill farmer and chairman of the Grattan township solicitation committee, canvassed \$1,549 in Grattan township alone to take a big lead among committeemen on the solicitation job.

Guy Cole, of Emmet, collected \$910 in Emmet village and township for second-high honors for the week's push.

A spokesman for the hospital general committee said that the solicitation will continue indefinitely. The year-end push was prompted because contributions were deductible from taxable net incomes.

Adverse weather and road conditions hampered solicitation work late in 1946, the spokesman continued. The D-Day for the rural solicitation—December 20—coincided with bad weather and was hampered. A more thorough canvass of the rural area and nearby villages and towns is yet to be conducted, the spokesman added.

TED COOPER STOPS HERE

Ted Cooper, formerly of O'Neill and father of Donna Ray of national radio fame, visited friends in O'Neill this week enroute to the West coast.

Mr. Cooper was formerly business manager for Fred Waring's orchestra.

VISIT MISSOURI

Mr. and Mrs. George Rector, and twins, left Friday for Marysville, Mo., and returned Sunday.

Coyne Damage May Exceed \$12,000

Two fires, both of undetermined origin, inflicted combined damage that may exceed \$20,000 during a 24-hour period here this week. Both blazes occurred in the heart of O'Neill's business district.

The H. E. Coyne hardware store, which is situated three doors east of the Golden hotel on Douglas street, was virtually destroyed in a blaze that was discovered at about 7:45 a.m. Tuesday. The store burned for more than two hours before the fire was brought under control by the volunteer fire department. Mr. Coyne conservatively estimates the damage between \$10,000 and \$12,000.

The Union store, a food firm at the corner of Fourth and Clay streets, broke out in flames at 2 a.m. Wednesday and quickly was brought under control. Damage is estimated at about \$7,000.

Manager Attracted by Recall at Coyne's

The Union store blaze was discovered by the manager, Ned Allendorfer, upon his return from a trip to the country. He was attracted to his own firm after having visited the Coyne hardware where firemen had been recalled one hour before.

The cause of the Union store fire has not been determined, although it is believed to have been started in the meat department.

The heat, smoke and water destroyed virtually all the foodstuffs and damaged most of the fixtures on the main floor of the building. The firemen succeeded in containing the fire on the main floor and little damage was caused in the basement or in the rear store-rooms.

The Union store is owned by Ray Shellhamer.

The loss is principally in merchandise and fixtures and most of the damage to the building is repairable.

Mr. Allendorfer plans to have the store reopened "within two weeks."

BANK DEPOSITS HIT 12 MILLION

Year-End Statements Show All-Time High for County Banks

Holt county bankers closed 1946 with a record total of nearly 12 million dollars. The Frontier learned this week following a study of the year-end financial statements published upon a routine order from the U. S. comptroller of currency.

The all-time high is generally attributed to the war-caused economic displacement. More specifically, Holt county farmers and ranchers have been receiving abnormally high prices for livestock, grain, and produce and this has been reflected in all types of business.

The breakdown follows: First National Bank of Atkinson, \$2,922,669.02.

O'Neill National Bank, \$2,681,372.97.

First National Bank of O'Neill, \$2,653,386.53.

Farmers State Bank of Ewing, \$1,169,897.78.

Tri-County Bank of Stuart, \$1,104,402.22.

Chambers State Bank, \$966,054.47.

Emmet State Bank, \$355,807.86.

These totals represent roughly 12 million dollars. Adding the deposits of two cooperative banking associations will boost the total to over the 12 million mark.

Big Banking Meet Scheduled at Omaha

How country banks can serve more people, finance more farmers and develop more prosperity in their area will be studied in a conference of the bankers of 11 Western states to be held in Omaha on February 20 and 21. It will be attended by hundreds of country bankers.

The American Bankers association will sponsor this conference and C. W. Bailey, president of this nationwide group will be the key speaker. The Nebraska Bankers association is assisting in arranging details and it is expected that out of this general program of benefit to every section where country banks serve the farming community.

This national organization of bankers is determined to emphasize the importance of the country banks' role in both agriculture and small business in the midwest.

Banks of the following midwest states will be represented: Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, Kansas, Oklahoma, North Dakota and South Dakota.

Rumors of 'Combustion,' Dynamite' Discounted

The fire at the Coyne store was discovered when the plateglass windows in the front were blown-onto onto the sidewalk. John McManus, a passerby, barely escaped injury from the explosion. The fire alarm was sounded by the phone from the adjoining M & M cafe where breakfast customers were interrupted.

Mr. Coyne expressed the theory that the blaze started in the basement near the front of the store.

FIREMEN RECALLED

The firemen were recalled to the Coyne hardware at 1:45 a.m. Wednesday when Police Chief Chester Calkins discovered still-smouldering floor mops during one of his periodic checkups that night.

In the vicinity of the furnace. He doubts, however, that the furnace was the cause because there had been no coal fire in the stove the preceding night.

The heat generated in the building was so intense that all the wooden fixtures in the basement and on the main floor were destroyed as well as most of the merchandise.

Flames, Smoke Geysers

Flames and smoke geysers from the building for several hours after the windows were blown-out and the fire was fanned by a draft through the building.

Harrison Bridge reported that he had passed the building at about 7:10 a.m., and remembers distinctly that he looked through the building. He expressed to Mr. Coyne the theory that the fire must have started after that time.

Water poured onto the blaze measured nearly four feet in depth in the basement. The water was later pumped out into the street.

A great deal of the merchandise not damaged by the flames and heat was damaged by the water.

Weather Raw

The flames were fought in a temperature of about 15-degrees above zero.

Mr. Coyne discounts the usual round of rumors regarding the cause of the fire. Among these were "spontaneous combustion in a coalbin," and the "explosion of dynamite." Mr. Coyne said that it was obvious that the blaze started in the opposite end of the building from the coalbin and the few pounds of blasting powder stocked survived the fire undamaged.

Mr. Coyne plans to sell the salvageable merchandise at a later date and then reopen the store. He says he has already received applications from 15 persons to assist with the salvage work.

Loss Partially Insured

The loss is partially covered by insurance. The annual inventory had only begun and the owner said it would be difficult to immediately determine the extent of the loss.

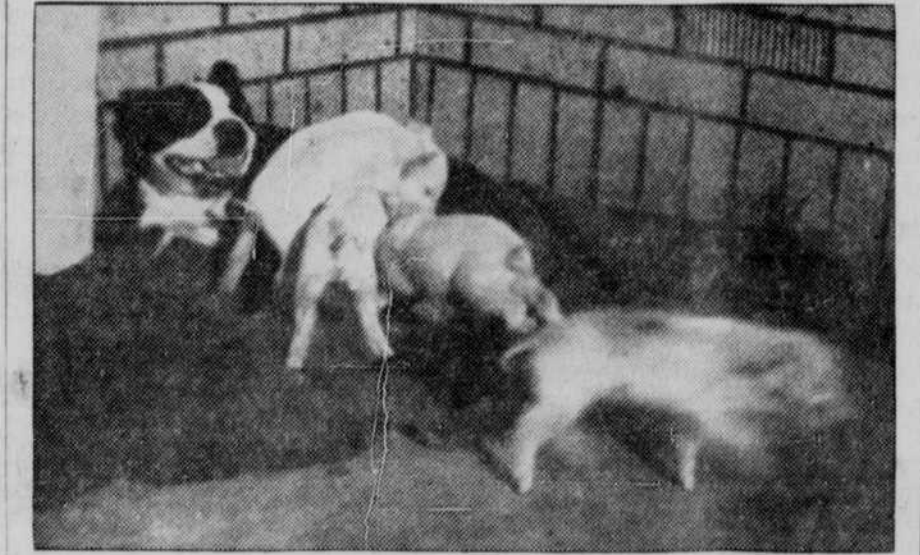
The building has been the scene of two previous fires, one of which was also considered a major fire in the city's history when the general merchandise stock of the Abdulla store burned about 20 years ago.

Goes to Funeral of Infant Grandson

Mrs. Albert Marsh has departed for Robert, Ill., to attend the funeral services for a three-month-old grandson. The infant's parents are Mr. and Mrs. James Marsh. The mother is the former Cecelia Edwards.

Visits Ill Granddaughter

Mrs. R. R. Reed, of Orchard, spent the past week in the J. C. Bazelman home visiting her granddaughter, Connie Jo Bazelman, who has been ill for several weeks.



Butch and her "babies" . . . at first the cupboard was bare, now she feeds them regularly.